



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: D.A. Farias et al. Examiner: Gerald J. O'Connor
Serial No.: 09/712,584 Group Art Unit: 3627
Filed: November 14, 2000 Docket No.: SJO919990173
TITLE: REPLENISHMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

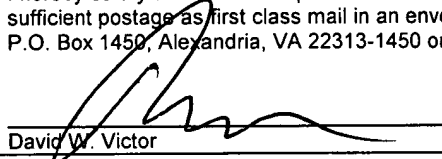
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Mail Stop: AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 8, 2003.


David W. Victor

8/8/03
Date

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This amendment is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and in response to the Final Office Action entered on April 8, 2003 (Final Office Action) and Advisory action dated July 25, 2003, in which the Examiner rejected all pending claims 1-65 as either anticipated (35 U.S.C. §102) or obvious (35 U.S.C. §103) over prior art. Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 13, 18, 30, 32, 37, 51, 56, and 58 and added new claims 66-69. Applicants submit that all pending claims are patentable over the cited art and in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed below.